

LINE OF STEAMERS FOR PETERSBURG

Business Men of City Want Service With Richmond and Norfolk.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)—A largely attended meeting of the business men of Petersburg was held at the Chamber of Commerce to-night for the purpose of organizing a corporation to succeed the Phillips Steamboat Line, in operating a line of steamboats between this city, Richmond and Norfolk. The benefits arising from water transportation, in maintaining low freight rates to this city, and in furnishing the merchants of this city with facilities for securing the trade along the river, were thoroughly discussed. Bartlett Roper, Jr., one of the receivers of the Phillips Line, reported that the line operated by them between Richmond and Petersburg had been a paying proposition, and that they believed that with a boat suited to conditions the line between Petersburg and Norfolk could be made profitable. A prospectus of a corporation to be organized for the purpose of establishing a line of boats was presented to the meeting, and Messrs. Bartlett Roper, Jr., Joseph W. Seward, T. F. Parsons, F. M. Dalton and M. C. Jackson were appointed a committee for the purpose of soliciting subscriptions to the stock.

The question of the channel of the Appomattox River was brought before the meeting by T. F. Heaton, president of the Chamber of Commerce, who stated that he was assured work would be done in the near future which would put the river in good navigable condition.

DRIVEN FROM HOME BY DONKEY DELUGE

Correspondence Almost Made a High School Teacher Insane.

New York, November 1.—Complaints at the post-office tell of many queer methods of persecution through the mails. One of the most novel and effective recently drove a teacher in a local high school to change his place of residence simply to avoid an avalanche of postals, insulting mail and express matter and telegrams that rained in upon him for several long and wretched months.

The teacher never discovered who it was that was persecuting him. His suspicions at first fell upon several members of his class, whom he suspected of trying to take revenge upon him. But soon the extremely personal tenor of some of the persecuting pictures and communications convinced him that the author of them must be some one far more familiar with his past than any of his pupils possibly could be. He never learned the identity of the person, and was obliged to merge without leaving a forwarding address.

The plague began with a single neatly written note that came to him one morning, reading simply:

"You are an ass."

The next morning there were three more notes, each mailed in a different city, and each reading merely:

"Yes, you are."

Daily thereafter notes rolled in with his morning mail. Sometimes he would find as many as six pictures of asses, mules, or donkeys, clipped from country papers or stock-brokers' magazines. At other times it would be an assortment of long-eared heads on picture postals. Again it would be merely a neatly penciled reference to the particular chapter in the Bible in which the beaten beast rebuked the prophet.

Once, on his birthday, he received a telegram bearing the single four-footed, long-eared, stubborn abbreviation "Donk."

Sometimes his persecutor varied things by sending merely a collection of small mirrors in a little box neatly stuffed with hay and oats. Again the method was varied in a telegram reading:

"How are your ears?"

Thereafter came a list of nearly fifty veterinary surgeons, at the bottom of which was scribbled:

"Any one of 'em will cure you, Old Spavin."

The victim at first tried to annihilate the jokester by paying no attention. Then he tried a look of superior contempt on all whom he met. But presently he was reminded that the money of the thing were upon his mind, and he showed his misery plainly. Sometimes a mule would come sandwiched in between a doctor's bill and an envelope, containing a note of acceptance from his "best girl" to an invitation to the theatre.

The result began to show in his temper. He grew fretful in his classes, and once almost came to blows with a young pupil whom he found sketching a burro on the cover of a text-book. He grew to hate the whole genus, irrespective of whether they were burros, mules, jacks, donkeys, or zebras.

In despair he resolved to tear up un-

ECZEMA IS NOT A BLOOD DISEASE.

Never Proves Fatal—Should Be Treated Externally With Poslam.

Essentially not a blood disease—on this point medical authorities agree. It never proves fatal, and is generally found in those who are otherwise healthy. Being a surface skin trouble, it can only be treated by external means. Poslam has probably accomplished more remarkable cures of this and other skin diseases than any remedy known. It is applied directly upon the disorder, stops itching at once and cures the skin. After a few applications, the hands and feet were in such condition I could hardly use them," writes Mrs. Esther Clark, Roxbury, Mass., "after being treated by several doctors and spending a small fortune I thought I would try poslam. I find myself perfectly well, and am so grateful that I cannot praise it enough."

Merely a small quantity of poslam used for clearing the complexion, quickly removing pimples, eruptions, rashes and blemishes, is sufficient to show what it can do. For this purpose free samples are mailed to any one upon request by the Emergen Laboratories, 32 West Twenty-fifth Street, New York City. All druggists, particularly Truitt's, sell bottles of poslam in trial packages and the regular \$2 jar.

read every envelope he found on his table in the morning. The first morning he destroyed his pay check for the previous month.

Then he appealed, as a last resort, to the postal authorities, hoping that they might help him at least to stop the inundation of the hated beasts by mail, leaving only express packages and telegrams to be dealt with.

Three months after the beginning of his torment, however, it still raged as fiercely as ever. Finally, one day he received a communication from an up-State farmer, who said that he had been requested by an anonymous correspondent to send him a young donkey, for which had accompanied the letter. The donkey, the farmer added, was on the way.

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TREASURY SHOWS GREATER DEFICIT

Experts Had Predicted a Surplus for Month of October.

SITUATION NOT UNUSUAL

Officials Expect Gradual Improvement From This Time On.

Washington, D. C., November 1.—The government's finances took a downward twist during the last three days of October, and tricked the experts who had been predicting a surplus for the month and hoping for an even break at the first. Exclusive of the Panama Canal charges, the receipts for the month were \$5,265,441, and the expenditures were \$5,560,333, which left a deficit in ordinary operations of \$294,892. Add to that sum the month's cost of the work on the canal, and \$5,295,033 stands on the wrong side of the ledger. The close of September had shown a total surplus of more than \$1,400,000, and it was the first time in the present fiscal year that the government took in more than it paid out.

While the operations deficit against the total Treasury receipts for the fiscal year to more than \$1,000,000, and the close of September saw it down to \$15,000,000—the situation is not considered unusual.

Panama Canal expenditures in October show nearly \$3,000,000, which brings the sum spent this year to more than \$13,000,000, and \$11,000,000 at the same time last year. Even though the total deficit does stand at \$2,000,000, it was more than \$3,000,000 at the same time last year, and in the difference, Treasury officials see reflected the economy of all the government's departments. The civil expenditures for October were \$2,000,000 greater than in September, and interest payments on the public debt took another \$2,000,000. It can be seen that the deficit for the month is easily accounted for by expenditures out of the ordinary.

Barring all unusual expenditures, such as for the Panama Canal, and payments on the public debt, the month's operations show a deficit of \$13,000,000, as against \$13,000,000 a year ago. In the face of growing receipts, which now total more than \$225,000,000 for this year, Treasury officials affect to be satisfied with the showing of the month and expect a gradual improvement from now on.

The balance of the general fund touched a little higher than \$5,000,000 to-day, as against \$4,000,000 on October 1, but the working balance is close to \$2,000,000, and as long as it continues to remain anywhere near that figure, there need be no expectation of any new financing, unless something unexpected should happen.

Twenty-two national banks came into existence in October, with a total capitalization of \$2,500,000. The majority were small banks, with capital of \$50,000 or less. The total national bank circulation is now \$724,874,208, an increase of about \$4,000,000 over last month.

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close of the month's business was \$1,755,679,952, an increase of about \$3,000,000.

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Wesson Snowdrift Oil

Combines in one superior article the best qualities known FOR BAKING, FRYING AND SALAD DRESSING.

It is wholly vegetable, odorless, tasteless, 100% cooking value, and 20% more economical than lard, and 33-1/3% more economical than butter, or olive oil. Sold by leading dealers. Made by

THE SOUTHERN COTTON OIL CO.

New York, New Orleans, Savannah, Chicago

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CRIMINAL LIBEL CHARGED

General Otis and Times' Assistant General Manager Arrested.

Los Angeles, Cal., November 1.—General Harrison Gray Otis, editor, and Harry Chandler, assistant general manager of the Los Angeles Times, were arrested to-day for the second time on a warrant charging criminal libel.

The charges grew out of an article to which labor leaders took exception. General Otis and Mr. Chandler were arrested a few weeks ago, but the charge was dismissed on a technical error. The second charge was sworn to by Andrew Gallagher, of San Francisco.

As soon as arrested habeas corpus proceedings were instituted, and General Otis and Mr. Chandler were released.

DEMENTED JAPANESE CAUGHT

Made Escape From Train While in Reno, November 1.—Officers to-day captured a demented Japanese, whose father is a wealthy member of the Japanese Parliament.

Escaped from E. J. Cassidy, who was appointed by the United States government to accompany him from New York City.

Auki is an engineer. While traveling in Switzerland he became imbued with the idea that Lake Geneva could be made to develop tremendous water power without ruining the beauty of the lake. He came to the United States and attempted to gain an audience with President Taft. He then went to New York, and was confined in a hospital for some time with brain fever. The fever left him deranged.

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reckoned with. So far Mr. Taft has adhered to his policy of making few negro appointments in the south, though Southern negroes have been advanced in the Federal service by bringing them to Washington or sending them to posts away from their place of birth.

But less than a month ago the President let it be known that he opposed John W. Capers' plan for reorganizing the Republican party in South Carolina on a Lilly White basis. At present the party in that State is almost altogether in the hands of negroes, and it is not strong enough even to go through the form of putting up a State ticket. There apparently is anywhere, Mr. Taft could find a good field for trying out his old dream of remaking the party in the South.

Such an effort, however, would inevitably mean the alienating of the party leaders as they now exist and as they probably would still be expected when the convention is called to order. It is thought that even Mr. Roosevelt's Brownsville record would be forgotten in the face of the new party plan. Mr. Taft's rule the Southern negro out of the party. And it seems that there is no chance of Mr. Taft running such a ship.

Soon after Mr. Taft's inauguration there seemed to be reason to believe that he advocated curtailing the representation of Southern Republicans in the party convention to a point something like commensurate with the party's Southern strength in the Electoral College. Mr. Taft, however, of course, weaken the President's chances of renomination provided his administration can succeed as all its predecessors have in holding the negro delegates to its support. The impression now conveyed is that Mr. Taft will confine his efforts to holding loyal to himself the Southern Republican organization as it exists, leaving aside for the present any serious endeavors to change the complexion of that organization.

SHRINE LEADER GUEST OF ACCA

In honor of Fred A. Hines, illustrious Imperial Potentate of North America, who journeyed from Los Angeles, Cal., for the purpose of paying his official annual visit to the local chapter, Acca Temple, Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, turned out in full force last night and gathered around him in the Masonic Temple. Accompanying the imperial potentate to this city were Deputy Imperial Potentate Jack Cunningham and J. Henry Miller, both of Baltimore.

Immediately on their arrival late yesterday afternoon the imperial cortege was met by members of the local shrine and conducted to the Jefferson Hotel, where they were most comfortably lodged. At 8 o'clock they had dinner there as guests of Acca Temple.

From the Jefferson the imperial potentate was conducted to the Masonic Temple, where he was greeted by nearly all the shriners of the city. When the time set for the end of the reception was over, not half of the faithful had been granted the privilege of shaking hands, and they were said to it, though there were urgent calls for the next feature on the program.

Genial ruler that he has proved himself to be, Potentate Hines stood in the center of the big reception hall and gave the glad hand to all who came up the elevator until the last of his subjects had passed in front of him and he was called in for the next feature of the program. Following the reception there was a vaudeville performance arranged especially for the entertainment of the imperial potentate by the members of Acca Temple, which he and his visiting companions applauded most vociferously.

Then came the banquet prepared by the official caterer, who spread himself by providing the choicest kind of food, to say nothing of various and sundry things of a liquid nature. Far in the small hours Potentate Thomas B. McAdams called the meeting adjourned, and the members sought their beds.

Potentate Hines and his companions will be in the city until to-morrow afternoon, when they will leave for a visit to Khedive Chapter, in Norfolk, where many preparations have been made for their reception. Members of Acca Temple will entertain them informally during the rest of their stay in this city.

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